

Objection to the Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 10 and 11 in that the recitations of a "hat shape" and a "T shape" do not convey a specific structural shape. (Office Action at 3). Applicants have amended the claims so as to more specifically point out the structural shape without narrowing the claims. Applicants submit that claims 10 and 11, as amended, overcome the objection, and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his objection.

Rejection of Claims 9 - 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

In the Office Action, claims 9 - 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated under the Stark *et al.* patent. Applicants have amended claim 9, and submit that claim 9, as amended, is patentable over the Stark reference.

As amended, claim 9 requires that the stiffening mold members be discrete. However, the corrugations that the Examiner alleges correspond to the stiffening mold members of the present application are not discrete. The corrugations make up one integral unit or sheet with a plurality of folds. Thus, Applicants submit that amended claim 9 is patentable over the Stark reference cited by the Examiner.

Further, the Examiner alleged that "Stark et al. discloses composite fibrous material (9) extending around the elongated stiffening mold members (5,7)". (Office Action at 4). However, at no time does Stark recite a composite fibrous material for hollow member 9. In fact, there is no suggestion that the hollow member 9 is made from a composite fibrous material. Thus, Applicants submit that amended claim 9 is patentable over the Stark reference cited by the Examiner.

Applicants additionally respectfully submit that dependent claims 10 – 17 are dependent on claim 9 and therefore also overcome the rejection under Stark. In addition, some of these claims are independently patentable over Stark. Stark does not disclose a stiffening mold member with a T-shaped cross-section, as claimed in claim 11. Stark does not disclose that the corrugated paper 5 may be removed from the liner, as claimed in claim 13. As such, Stark does not disclose the formation of structural voids from the removal of the corrugated paper 5, as claimed in claims 16 and 17.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of Claims 9 - 17 for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

### CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all of the rejections set forth by the Examiner have been overcome. Applicants therefore believe that the application is therefore in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. If for any reason, the Examiner is unable to allow the application but believes that an interview would be helpful to resolve any issues, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at (312) 245-5354.

Respectfully submitted,



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